

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**EDWARD E. McNALLY
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

NOVEMBER 28, 2005

Edward E. McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced that **SAMUEL LEVITAN**, 22, of Collinsville, Illinois, was arraigned in Federal Court in East St. Louis on November 22, 2005, on a two-count Indictment charging him with violations of 18 U.S.C. § § 2423(a) and 1512(b)(3).

Count 1 of the Indictment charges **LEVITAN** with transporting a minor from Missouri to Illinois with intent that the minor engage in sexual activity under such circumstances as would constitute a felony under Illinois Compiled Statute, Chapter 720, Section 5/12-16(d) (Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse). Count 2 charges **LEVITAN** with threatening the minor with intent to hinder, delay, and prevent the communication to a law enforcement officer of information relating to the commission of a federal offense.

The Indictment alleges that the minor was 15 years old at the time, and that the defendant engaged in sexual intercourse with the minor at his Collinsville residence in August, 2005.

An indictment is only an allegation. The defendant is presumed to be innocent unless and until his guilt is proven beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The Defendant was detained without bond following arraignment.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Madison County Sheriff's Office, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stephen B. Clark.